

Belle Grove  
Port Conway vicinity  
King George County  
Virginia

HABS No. VA-274

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of Virginia

Historic American Buildings Survey

Prepared at Washington Office

BELLE GROVE  
Near Port Conway, King George County, Virginia

Owner: J. P. Hooper of Chicago

Date of erection: Eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries

Present condition: Good

Description:

The present form of Belle Grove is the result of various alterations. The original house was evidently a rectangular two-story frame building with short low wings. The river and land fronts have five bays with center door, and the wings two. All sash is six-over-six lights. The cornice of both main house and wings is fully moulded with modillions. The main roof is hipped, and there are end inside chimneys. On the north or land front there is now a two-story vestibule, added perhaps about 1815. This has a superimposed portico with a Doric order at the first floor and a modified Corinthian at the second. This double porch continues across the rest of the front in two bays and joins the entrance portico with a concave quadrant offset. This feature, repeated to bring the porch back to the face of the main wall, produces a curious restless effect intensified by an addition toward the north of the wings, which are connected to the porches by convex quadrant sections.

The river front is simpler, having a three-bay superimposed portico, Doric and Ionic, with pedimented terminal pavilions. These have arched recesses on the first floor flanked by coupled pilasters, and in the tympana of the pediments are louvered fans.

Approved:

*Thomas Waterman*

Date:

*May 24, 1941*